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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/254,864	03/15/1999	SHINJI USUBA		7686

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VENABLE
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE NW
SUITE 300 EAST
WASHINGTON, DC 200053955

EXAMINER

HYUN, SOON D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2663

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/254,864

Applicant(s)

USUBA ET AL.

Examiner

Hyun, S.D.

Art Unit

2663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 12-16 and 18-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-6, 12-16, 18-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fechalos U.S. Patent Number 4,737,950 in view of Ferguson et al U.S. Patent Number 5,809,024 in view of Civanlar et al U.S. Patent Number 5,737,333.

Re Claims 1, 6, 21, '950 teaches in fig. 1a, a host switching system (a LAN switching Unit) connecting plurality of interfaces 10 which includes telephone concentrators and LAN concentrators (plurality of LAN hubs) wherein the concentrator is coupled to plurality of PCs (computing equipments). Fechalos fails to explicitly teach converting the digital voice data into MAC frames to be relayed to the LAN interface. However, Civanlar et al teaches in Fig. 4, a Router that includes plurality LAN adapters to receive telephone calls to be converted into MAC frames by LAN adaptor to be relayed over the LAN interface (See col. 10, lines 18-40). One skilled in the art would have been motivated by Civanlar to modify the switching system 12 to include a MAC frame converter to be adaptive to receive telephone calls. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled incorporate the teaching of Civanlar et al into the teaching of Ferguson et al.

Re Claims 2, 12, 14, 15, fig 4, '333 Patent teaches a CPU 402; and LAN adaptor 164-1 (a second LAN interface)

Re Claims 3, 4, 16, 18, '333 teaches that the hosts in the network communicates by send/receiving IP data packets, wherein the encapsulations includes plurality of network media types (TCP/UDP, ATM, Ethernet, Token Ring).

Re Claims 5, 13, 19, 20, 22-25, refer to Claim 3, wherein the Internet includes plurality of routers (a router).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 7-9, 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. Claims 10-11 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As prior art 4,737,950 teaches the telephone concentrator coupled to the switching host. Prior art fails to teach the concentrators coupled to the LAN switch via a respective LAN interfaces.

Response to Arguments


5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-6, 12-16, 18-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hyun, S. D whose telephone number is 703-305-4550. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30AM to 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on 703-308-5340. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.


Hyun, S.D.
March 9, 2003


CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600